

## CLAIMS

1           1.     A computer-based system for inhibiting unauthorized recording of  
2 digitized music, comprising:

3                 a cryptography module including logic executable by a provider  
4 computer, the logic including, for at least a segment of the music, obtaining  
5 an authorized digital signature, and then associating the authorized digital  
signature with the music; and

6                 a consumer module associated with a consumer music player and  
7 executable thereby to undertake logic including processing at least the segment  
8 of the music to obtain a test digital signature, and, only if the test digital  
9 signature matches the authorized digital signature, permitting at least one of:  
10 compression of the music, and recording the music, on the consumer music  
11 player.  
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1           2.     The system of Claim 1, wherein the cryptography module derives  
2 authorized digital signatures for respective plural segments of the music, and  
3 associates the authorized digital signatures with the music.

1           3.     The system of Claim 2, wherein the consumer module determines test  
2 digital signatures for respective plural segments of the music, the consumer module  
3 preventing at least one of: compression of the music, and recording of the music,

4 unless a predetermined relationship exists between test digital signatures and the  
5 authorized digital signatures.

1 4. The system of Claim 1, wherein the music is stored in a data stream  
2 on a disk, and the authorized digital signature is associated with the music by storing  
3 the authorized digital signature on the disk, apart from the stream.

1 5. The system of Claim 1, wherein the music is stored in a data stream  
2 on a disk, and the authorized digital signature is associated with the music by storing  
3 the authorized digital signature on the disk as part of the stream.

1 6. The system of Claim 1, wherein the authorized digital signature is  
2 tagged with a signature date, and the consumer module processes the music using a  
3 current key or an expired key having a key date equal to or later than the signature  
4 date.

1 7. A computer program storage device including a program of instructions  
2 for determining whether a request to compress and record digitized music should be  
3 honored, the program of instructions including:

4 computer readable code means for processing at least one segment of  
5 the music to obtain a test digital signature;

6 computer readable code means for receiving an authorized digital  
7 signature associated with the music; and

8 computer readable code means for permitting compression and  
9 recording of the music only if at least the test digital signature matches the  
10 authorized digital signature.

1 8. The device of Claim 7, further comprising:

2 computer readable code means for determining test digital signatures  
3 for respective plural segments of the music; and

4 computer readable code means for preventing at least one of:  
5 compression of the music, and recording of the music, unless a predetermined  
6 number or percentage of matches exist between test digital signatures and  
7 authorized digital signatures.

8 9. A computer program storage device including a program of instructions  
9 for associating digitized music with at least digital signature derived from at least a  
10 segment of the music, the program of instructions including structure comprising:

1 computer readable code means for deriving an authorized digital  
2 signature from at least the segment of the music;

3 computer readable code means for storing the music on a recording  
4 medium; and  
5

8 computer readable code means for storing the authorized digital  
9 signature on the recording medium along with the music.

1 10. The device of Claim 9, further comprising:

2 computer readable code means for deriving authorized digital signatures  
3 for respective plural segments of the music; and

4 computer readable code means for associating the authorized digital  
5 signatures with the music.

11. The device of Claim 10, further comprising:

computer readable code means for storing the music on a location of  
the recording medium apart from the stream.

12. The device of Claim 10, further comprising:

computer readable code means for storing the music on a location of  
the recording medium as part of the stream.

1 13. A method for facilitating the compression and storage, on a personal  
2 music player, of digitized music received on a disk in an authorized transaction,  
3 comprising the acts of:

4 recording the music on the disk along with at least one authorized  
5 digital signature derived from the music;

6 receiving the disk;

7 engaging the disk with a personal music player compression device;

8 deriving at least one test digital signature from the music; and

9 compressing the music and recording the music on the personal music  
10 player only if the test digital signature matches the authorized digital signature.

1 14. The method of Claim 13, further comprising the acts of:

2 deriving plural authorized digital signatures from respective segments  
3 of the music; and

4 recording the plural authorized digital signatures on the disk.

5 15. The method of Claim 14, further comprising the acts of:

6 deriving plural test digital signatures from plural segments of the music;  
and

undertaking the compressing and recording act only if a predetermined  
number or percentage of matches exist between test digital signatures and  
authorized digital signatures.

1 16. The method of Claim 13, wherein the authorized digital signature is  
2 stored on the disk, apart from the music.

1           17.     The method of Claim 13, wherein the authorized digital signature is  
2 stored on the disk in the music.

1           18.     The method of Claim 13, wherein the authorized digital signature is  
2 tagged with a signature date, and the deriving act includes processing the music using  
3 a current key or an expired key having a key date equal to or later than the signature  
4 date.

1           19.     The system of Claim 4, further comprising a robust watermark on the  
2 disk.

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A.     The method of Claim 13, further comprising recording a robust  
watermark on the disk.